First Circuit Opinion Summaries by Findlaw

• First Circuit Opinion Summaries by Findlaw - with links to full-text opinions arranged by month.

Most Recent Summaries

FINDLAW DAILY OPINION SUMMARIES U.S. 1ST CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS

Banking Law, Property Law & Real Estate

Ruivo v. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., No. 13-1222

Dismissal of plaintiff's common law fraud claim and promissory estoppel claim is affirmed, where both claims were found to be inadequately pleaded.

Debt Collection

Pollard v. Law Office of Mandy L. Spauldi, No. 13-2478

Judgment of the district court, concluding that a collection letter received by plaintiff violated section 1692g of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA) is affirmed, where: 1) the FDCPA requires that collection letters not be confusing; and 2) in determining whether a collection letter is confusing, the letter is to be viewed from the perspective of the hypothetical unsophisticated consumer.

Labor & Employment Law, Commercial Law, Injury & Tort Law

Debnam v. FedEx Home Delivery, No. 13-2335

In this wage payment action brought by plaintiff against defendant-FedEx, in which the plaintiff also brought an unfair business practice claim under so called "Chapter 93A" of Massachusetts law, summary judgment in favor of defendant is affirmed, where: 1) the facts alleged in the complaint paint an ambiguous relationship between plaintiff and defendant, not necessarily one of employee-employer; and 2) regardless of whether plaintiff was an employee, the allegations in his complaint do not plausibly establish that his actions satisfied Chapter 93A's conception of "trade or commerce" as required to prevail under the statute.